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June 29, 2016

Via Hand Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 14-58

2016 ETC Annual Report of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code 240546

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Company"), JSI files the attached confidential version of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules. Company seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information. The redacted version is being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System. In addition, attached is a letter requesting confidential treatment under Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Company's Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report required by Section 54.313.

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely.

John Kuykendall JSI Vice President

301-459-7590

jkuykendall@jsitel.com

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

² Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58, Protective Order, DA 16-296 rel. March 22, 2016 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459, 54.313.



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June 29, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 14-58

2016 ETC Annual Report of Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Study Area Code 240546 Request for Confidentiality

Dear Ms. Dortch:

John Staurulakis, Inc. ("JSI"), on behalf of its client Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.(the "Company") hereby requests, pursuant to Sections 0.457 and 0.459 of the Commission's rules, withholding from public inspection certain information contained in an attachment to the above referenced reporting requirement. The Company provides the following in support of its request, numbered consistent with the subparagraphs of Section 0.459(b).²

- 1. The information for which the Company is seeking confidential treatment is an attachment to the Company's annual reporting information pursuant to Sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules ("Report").³
- 2. Pursuant to Section 54.313, Rate-of-Return Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("ETCs") must file with the Commission a Progress Report on its Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan ("Progress Report") which is contained in the attachment to the 2016 Report.⁴
- 3. The information contained in attachment for which the Company seeks the withholding from public inspection is the entirety of data pertaining to the Company's Progress Report provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment. Information of this nature is confidential commercial information routinely withheld from public inspection.

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.457, 0.459.

² 47 C.F.R. § 0.459(b)(1) through (9).

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

⁴ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313.

- 4. With respect to identifying the degree to which the subject attachment concerns a service that is subject to competition, the information is of a financial and competitive nature regarding the provision of telecommunications services. The Line 112 attachment contains competitively sensitive information related to proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance the Company's network.
 - In its March 5, 2013 Order, the FCC. The FCC specified that for rate-of-return carriers, the five-year plans "should describe the carrier's network improvement plan, which should provide greater visibility into current plans to extend broadband service to unserved locations in rate-of-return service territories." The Company's Progress Report updates this information as well as provides maps and detailed information as to whether or not network improvement objectives were achieved at the wire center level. Accordingly, because the Company is a rate-of-return carrier, it must file Progress Reports which contain proprietary, competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network including the specific locations of customers as well as describe proposed improvements or upgrades and maintenance of its network throughout its service area. Specifically, this information sets forth services provided by the Company over its existing network including specific locations of customers as well as planned network improvement and maintenance for the years 2015 through 2019 including project start and completion dates, population that will be impacted by the improvements and upgrades at the wire center level and projected capital costs associated with the improvements and upgrades and operating costs associated with maintaining the network including depreciation for investments that have already been made. As such, this information contains competitively sensitive information related to the Company's existing network as well as detailed plans at the wire center level for network upgrades and maintenance projected for the years 2015 through 2019.
- 5. With respect to identifying possible exposure to competitive harm, the information contained in the Line 112 attachment is information that is not customarily released to the public. This information is proprietary to the Company, is unique to the Company's serving territory and is only known to the Company and its authorized agents. If the Information is not protected, it would have economic value to potential competitors who would be able to target their marketing to specific customers. In a competitive telecommunications marketplace, this type of information is highly sensitive. If publicly disclosed, it would enable competitors to craft business plans that capitalize on their knowledge of the locations of the Company's customers which would place the Company at a competitive disadvantage.
- 6. With respect to steps the Company has taken to ensure against unauthorized disclosure of the information contained in the attachment, the Company is filing

⁵ See Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket 10-90 et al., Order, DA 13-332 (rel. Mar. 5, 2013) ("March 5, 2013 Order") at para 9 citing Section 54.202(a) (1) (ii).

the attachment under seal. The Company uses the information contained in the Progress Report to ensure that its customers continue to receive state-of-the-art high quality telecommunications and broadband services that the Company has been providing to them for many years as well as to satisfy mandatory reporting requirements and does not share the information for which protection is sought. The Company protects the secrecy of this information with a security protocol that ensures the information is not inadvertently disclosed or disseminated. Only directors, managers and employees with a direct need to know are authorized to access the information.

- 7. Any previous versions of this information are not publicly available.
- 8. Because the information is not routinely available, a need exists for maintaining the confidentiality of this information permanently.
- 9. Not applicable.

Based on the preceding, JSI respectfully requests on behalf of the Company that the Commission grant confidential treatment under Section 0.459 to Company's Progress Report provided at FCC Form 481 Line 112 attachment.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall JSI Vice President

301-459-7590

jkuykendall@jsitel.com

FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form		REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	240546	
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2017	
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	t Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line	8436586845 ext. e <030>	
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <	030> jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
	Form Typ	pe 54.313 and 54.422	

FCC Form 481

(100) S	ervice Quality Improvement Reporting		FCC Form	1 481	
Data Co	ollection Form			ntrol No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-	-0819
			July 2013		
<010>	Study Area Code	240546			
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP			
<020>	Program Year	2017			
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver			
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.			
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shto	net		
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no)	0 •		
.444	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5	, , ,	\cap		
<111>	year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no)			
<112>	If your answer to Line <111> is yes, please file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service. Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.		46sc112.pdf		
			Name of Atta	ached Document	
	Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to conf that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five service quality improvement plan pursuant to §54.202(a). The information shall submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.	e-year			
<113>	Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets		Yes		
<114>	Report how much universal service (USF) support was received		Yes		
<115>	How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve	ove service quality	Yes		
<116>	How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to imp	orove service coverage	Yes		
<117>	How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to imp	rove service capacity	Yes		
<118>	Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.		Not Applicable		

(200) Service Outage Reporting (Voice)	FCC Form 481
	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code											
<015>	Study Area Na	ame				SANDHILL TE	L COOP					
<020>	Program Year					2017						
<030>	Contact Name	e - Person USAC	should contac	t regarding this	data	Jeanne Oliv	er					
<035>	Contact Telep	hone Number	- Number of pe	erson identified	in data line <030	8436586845	ext.					
<039>	Contact Email	Address - Ema	il Address of pe	erson identified	in data line <030	> jeanne.oliv	er@shtc.net					
<210>	<210> For the prior calendar year, were there any reportable voice service out					outages?	No					
<220>	<a>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<c1></c1>	<c2></c2>	<d></d>	<e></e>	<f></f>	<g></g>	<h>></h>

	<a>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<c1></c1>	<c2></c2>	<d></d>	<e></e>	<f></f>	<g></g>	<h></h>
	NORS									Did This Outage		
		Outage Start	Outage Start	Outage End	Outage End	Number of		911 Facilities	Service Outage	Affect Multiple		
	Number	Date	Time	Date		Customers Affected	Total Number of	Affected			Camilea Outage	Preventative
	Number	Date	Time	Date	Time	customers Affected			Description (Check	Study Areas	Service Outage	
							Customers	(Yes / No)	all that apply)	(Yes / No)	Resolution	Procedures
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	fulfilled Service Request ection Form				FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control July 2013	l No. 3060-0819
<010>	Study Area Code		240546			
<015>	Study Area Name		SANDHILL TEL COOP			
<020>	Program Year		2017			
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data			Jeanne Oliver			
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in	data line <030>	8436586845 ext.			
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in	data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net			
<300> U	nfulfilled service request (voice)		0			
<310> [Detail on attempts (voice)					
		Nam	e of Attached Document			
<320>	Unfulfilled service request (broadband)		0			
<330>	Detail on attempts (broadband)					_
		N	lame of Attached Document			

(400) Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240546	
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2017	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should conta	nct regarding this data Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of p <030>	erson identified in data line 8436586845 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of p <030>	person identified in data line jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<400>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice calendar year for each service area in which any facilities you own, operate, lease, or of	telephony service in the prior Offered only fixed voice hyou are designated an ETC for	
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed v	oice 0.0	
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile	voice	
<430>	Select from the drop-down list to indicate end-user customer complaints (zero or greather prior calendar year for each service are an ETC for any facilities you own, operate,	eater) for broadband service in Offered only fixed broadband ea in which you are designated	
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed b	roadband 0.0	
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile	broadband	

	npliance With Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules lection Form		FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	240546	
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2017	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<500>	Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer pro-	otection rules Yes	
<510>	Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Ru	240546SC510.pdf ules Compliance	

•	unctionality in Emergency Situations R Ollection Form	EDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	240546	
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2017	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <0	30> 8436586845 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0)30> jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<600>	Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes	
<610>	Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	240546SC610.pdf	

(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data		FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010> Study Area Code	240546	
<015> Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020> Program Year	2017	
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver	
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data	line <030> 8436586845 ext.	
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data	line <030> jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date 1/1/2016 702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge		

<703>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<b5></b5>	<c></c>
	.				Residential Local			Mandatory Extended Area	
-	State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fees
-									
•									
•									
					_				
-					See at	tached worksheet			
-									
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•									
-									
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(710) Broadbrand Price Offerings	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	40546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net

<711>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<c></c>	<d1></d1>	<d2></d2>	<d3></d3>	<d4></d4>
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rate and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached {select}
				0 "					
			,	- See attacl worksheet -	ned				

. , .	erating Companies lection Form			FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code		240546	
<015>	Study Area Name		SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year		2017	
<030>	Contact Name - Person L	JSAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Numl	ber - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - I	Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.		
<811>	Holding Company	Not Applicable		
<812>	Operating Company	Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.		

<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>
Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation
See atta	ached workshe	et
	Affiliates	

(900) Tribal Lands Reporting Data Collection Form			FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	240546	
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year	2017	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<900>	Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N)	No	
<910>	Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves		
<920>	Tribal Government Engagement Obligation	Name of Attached Doo	cument
If your c	ompany serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes,No, NA) for each these boxes		
	rm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920,		
demons	trates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to	Select	
§ 54.313	8(a)(9) includes:	Yes or No or Not Applicable	
<921>	Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.		
<922>	Feasibility and sustainability planning;		
<923>	Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;		
<924>	Compliance with Rights of way processes		
<925>	Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements		
<926>	Compliance with Facilities Siting rules		
<927>	Compliance with Environmental Review processes		
<928>	Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes		
<929>	Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.		

	RED	ACTED F	OR PUBLIC INSPECTION	Page 1.
(1000) V	pice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability			FCC Form 481
Data Coll	ection Form			OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
				July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code		240546	
<015>	Study Area Name		SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year		2017	
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data		Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line	<030>	8436586845 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line	<030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<1000>	Voice services rate comparability certification	Yes		
<1010>	Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance			
			Name of Attached Doci	ment
<1020>	Broadband comparability certification		- Pricing is no more than Wireline Competition Bure	the most recent applicable benchmark announced by au
<1030>	Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance			
		-	Name of Attached Doc	ument

(1100) N	.100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting FCC Form 481				
Data Col	lection Form		OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013		
<010>	Study Area Code	240546			
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP			
<020>	Program Year	2017			
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver			
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.			
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net			
<1100>	Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)	Yes			
<1130>	Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 k upstream within the supported area pursuant to \$ 54.313(a).	kbps			

ns and Condition for Lifeline Customers	FCC Form 481
	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
tion Form	July 2013
tudy Area Code	240546
tudy Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
rogram Year	2017
ontact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
ontact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	> 8436586845 ext.
ontact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030)> jeanne.oliver@shtc.net
erms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans	240546SC1210.pdf
	Name of Attached Document
	Name of Accorded Socialities
Link to Public Website HTTP	
_	
k these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, te listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to 2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must ort:	
nformation describing the terms and conditions of any voice relephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,	
Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,	
dditional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.	
t t t c c c c	tudy Area Code tudy Area Name fogram Year contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030 contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030 cerms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans Link to Public Website HTTP At these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, the listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to (2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must contain the subscribers of the plan of the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,

(2000) Price	e Cap Carrier Additional Documentation tion Form			orm 481 Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
Including Ro	ate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers		July 2	013
40105 0	Andri Area Cada	240546		
	tudy / ii cu couc	SANDHILL TEL COOP		
	tudy / it cu Hume	2017		
		Teanne Oliver		
		3436586845 ext.		
<039>	contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net		
	e appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note c nect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(o			
li	ncremental Connect America Phase I reporting			
<2010>	2nd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(i) - Note th	nat for the July 1		
	2016 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of	•		
	Support			
2011	• •	ant for the July 1		
<2011>	3rd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note th			
	2016 certification, this applies to Round 1 recipients of	Incremental		
	Support			
<2022>	Recipient certifies, representing year two after filing a	notice of		
	acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the I			
	question are not receiving support under the Broadbar			
	Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities F			
	projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at			
	Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only	'.		
<2023>	The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the	ne total amount of		
	capital funding expended in the previous year in meeti	ng Connect		
	America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied	_		
	blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers			
		, year two -		
	54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.			
<2024A	> Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?			
<2024B	> Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding w	as spent in year Name	e of Attached Document Listing	
	two - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.	Requi	red Information	
<2025A	> Round 1 or Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?			
1202371				
<2025B	> Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone rep	orts (Round 1 for Name	e of Attached Document Listing	
~ZUZJD/				
	year three and Round 2 for year two) - Connect Americ	a runu , wc Requi	red Information	
	Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-			
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR §	54.313(c)(4)		

Data Collection For	orrier Additional Documentation (Continued) om eturn Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013		
<2016>	Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)} Certification support used to build broadband t America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}			
<2017A>	Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?			
<2017B>	Attach information for Phase II - 54.313(e)(1) - list of geocoded locations already meeting the 54.309 public interest obligations at the end of calendar year 2015 and total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information		
<2018>	cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2015. Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(2)(ii)	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information		
<2019>	Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(2)(v)			
<2020>	Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 40% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2017 - 54.313(e)(3)			
<2021>	Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 60% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2018 - 54.313(e)(4)			
<2026>	Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 80% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2019 - 54.313(e)(5)			
<2027>	Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 100% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2020 - 54.313(e)(6)			

(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net

Complete the items below to note compliance with five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

(3009)	Progress Report on 5 Year Plan Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)				
(3010A)	Milestone Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}		Yes - At	tach Certifi	
(3010B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Doo	cument Lis	sting Required	240546SC3010.pdf
	Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR §	Information No - No New Community	Anghaw	-	
(3012A)	54.313(f)(1)(ii)}				
(3012B)	Please Provide Attachment	Name of Attached Doo Information	cument Lis	sting Required	ed
(3013)	Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}	(Yes/No)	O	0	
(3014)	If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report	(Yes/No)	O	\odot	
(3015)	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires: Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)				
(3016)	Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		L		
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation	Name of Attached Doo Information	cument Lis	sting Required	ed
(3018)	If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited? If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:	(Yes/No)	•	0	
(3019)	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers			·	
(3020)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows			~	
(3021)	Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit. If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:			~	
(3022)	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers				
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant				
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.				
(3025)	Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows				
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Doo	cument Lis	sting Required	240546SC3026.pdf ed

	REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION
(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net

Financial Data Common.	
Financial Data Summary	
(3027) Revenue	
(3028) Operating Expenses	
(3029) Net Income	
(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)	
(3031) Total Assets	
(3032) Total Debt	
(3033) Total Equity	
(3034) Dividends	

(4005) Rural Broadband Experiment Additional Documentation Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data li	ne <030> 8436586845 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data l	ine <030> jeanne.oliver@shtc.net

4005 Rural Broadband Experiment

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission's public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

4001. Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)

4003a. RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

speed and data usage allowances available in the

relevant geographic area.

, , ,	
4003b . Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (para	graph 80)
4004a . Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information
4004b . Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

Certification - Reporting Carrier	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
	va., 2020

<010>	Study Area Code	240546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients

I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.

Name of Reporting Carrier:

Signature of Authorized Officer:

Date

Printed name of Authorized Officer:

Title or position of Authorized Officer:

Telephone number of Authorized Officer:

Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:

Filing Due Date for this form:

Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form		FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	240546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier		
certify that (Name of Agent) John Staurulakis, Inc. is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.		
Name of Authorized Agent: John Staurulakis, Inc.		
Name of Reporting Carrier: SANDHILL TEL COOP		
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	Date: 06/27/2016	
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Christopher Chambers		
Title or position of Authorized Officer: CEO/General Manager		
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 8436586857 ext.		
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 240546	Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2016	
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.		

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

	Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier					
	gent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided ata reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.					
Name	of Reporting Carrier: SANDHILL TEL COOP					
Name	of Authorized Agent Firm: John Staurulakis, Inc.					
Signatu	Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/27/2016					
Name	of Authorized Agent Employee: Lans Chase					
Title or	or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent Staff Director - Regulatory Affairs					
Teleph	hone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: 7705692015 ext.1					
Study A	Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 240546 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2016					
	Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.					

Attachments

ATTACHMENT - LINE 112

Five-Year Network Improvement Plan and Progress Report

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.'s demonstration of complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules for voice and broadband services:

In establishing this certification in its 2005 ETC Order,¹ the FCC found that an ETC must make "a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers." ² The FCC found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA's Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis.³ In this context, the FCC stated, "to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement."⁴

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Sandhill") hereby certifies that it is in compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules. Sandhill is subject to consumer protection obligations under both federal and South Carolina state law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) filing a Local Exchange Tariff pursuant to the requirements of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina which disclose rates, and terms and conditions of service to customers (Section 103-612.2.1 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); (2) adherence to state consumer protection requirements governing telephone providers which

¹ Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) ("2005 ETC Order").

² *Id.* at para. 28.

³ *Id.* The FCC noted that under the CTIA Consumer Code, wireless carriers agree to: "(1) disclose rates and terms of service to customers; (2) make available maps showing where service is generally available; (3) provide contract terms to customers and confirm changes in service; (4) allow a trial period for new service; (5) provide specific disclosures in advertising; (6) separately identify carrier charges from taxes on billing statements; (7) provide customers the right to terminate service for changes to contract terms; (8) provide ready access to customer service; (9) promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies; and (10) abide by policies for protection of consumer privacy." *Id.* at n. 71.

⁴ *Id.* at n. 72.

govern Standards and Quality of Service (Sections 103-661, 103-662, and 103-663 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Customer Relations, including billing, deposits, discontinuance and termination of service (Sections 103-620 through 103-633 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Engineering and Safety Standards (Sections 103-640 through 103-646 and 103-670 through 103-672 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Inspections and Tests (Sections 103-650 through 103-653 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); Records and Reports (Sections 103-610 through 103-619 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations) and Customer Complaints (Section 103-628 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); (3) truth-in-billing requirements (Section 103-622.1 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations); and (4) CPNI, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

Sandhill is subject to consumer protection obligations for broadband services under federal law. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: public disclosure of accurate information regarding network management practices, performance, and commercial terms of broadband internet access services; as a means of providing sufficient information for consumers to make informed choices regarding use of such services, and for content, application, service and device providers to develop, market, and maintain internet offerings as specified in 47 CFR § 8.3. The Company furthermore will comply with all requirements set forth in the 2015 Open Internet Order.

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative's demonstration of ability to function in emergency situations for voice and broadband services:

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc. ("Sandhill") hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(2)¹ and Section 103-646 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations. Sandhill's network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2) and Section 103-646 of the South Carolina Code of Regulations. Sandhill can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations will also allow Sandhill to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require. In addition, Sandhill has redundancy for connectivity purposes *via* additional routes and electronic equipment for voice and broadband services.

Specifically, each central office building is supplied with standby generators and battery back-up that enable the central office to keep running until power is restored so long as fuel is available, or until system changes are made to reroute traffic. Sandhill has battery backup at all office locations and in its electronic equipment sites. Length of run time is determined by the equipment serving the area and the number of customers working out of the equipment. Generators are installed at all Central Office locations. They will continue to run as long as Sandhill has access to fuel.

Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to "demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations."

(700) Price Offerings including Voice Rate Data	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
	Contact Name 1 croon Contest regarding this data	Ceanne Olivei
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.

<701> Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date

<702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

<703>

<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<b5></b5>	<c></c>
_				Residential Local			Mandatory Extended Area	
State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fees
SC	ALL		FR	10.8	0.0	0.29	0.0	11.09
								+

(710) Broadband Price Offerings	FCC Form 481
Data Collection Form	OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
	July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	240546
<015>	Study Area Name	SANDHILL TEL COOP
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net

<711>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<c> <d1></d1></c>	<d2></d2>	<d3></d3>		<d4></d4>
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rates and Fees		Broadband Service -Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached {select}
	sc	ALL	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No Limits on Usage Allowance
	SC	ALL	59.95	0.0	59.95	10.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No Limits on Usage Allowance
	SC	ALL	79.95	0.0	79.95	15.0	1.0	999999.0	Other, No Limits on Usage Allowance
			l				1		

(800) Op	erating Companies			FCC Form 481
Data Coll	lection Form			OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
				July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code		240546	
<015>	Study Area Name		SANDHILL TEL COOP	
<020>	Program Year		2017	
<030>	Contact Name - Person I	JSAC should contact regarding this data	Jeanne Oliver	
<035>	Contact Telephone Num	ber - Number of person identified in data line <030>	8436586845 ext.	
<039>	Contact Email Address -	Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jeanne.oliver@shtc.net	
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.		
<811>	Holding Company	Not Applicable		

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

<812> Operating Company

<813>	<a1></a1>	<a2></a2>	<a3></a3>
	Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation
·	Sandhill Communications		Sandhill Communications
,			
,			
,			
•			
•			
•			
•			
,			
•			

(N)

BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.7 LIFELINE PROGRAM

3.7.1 General

- A. The Lifeline Program is a telephone assistance program designed to make telephone service available at reduced rates to eligible residential customers.
- B. Eligible customers will receive a credit not to exceed the current federally-mandated subscriber line charge (End User Common Line Charge). The credit will be applied to basic local exchange access service.
- C. The Lifeline Program reduction to basic local exchange access service shall apply only to residential one-party service.
- D. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a customer who is otherwise eligible for the Lifeline Program from obtaining and using telecommunications equipment and services designed to aid such customer in utilizing qualifying telecommunications services.
- E. The Lifeline Program rate reduction does not apply to service connection charges, except that customers eligible for the Link Up America program will receive a reduction on applicable service connection services, as set forth in Section 4.8 of this tariff.

F. The Lifeline Program rate will not be available on a retroactive basis.

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Charles Angelts

Issued: February 1, 1996
BY: President

Effective: Upon Approval of the Commission

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BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.7 LIFELINE PROGRAM (Cont'd)

Eligibility Requirements 3.7.2

- The discounted service will be provided for one (1) telephone line per Α. household, at the subscriber's principal place of residence. Individuals who meet the following four (4) criteria are eligible for Lifeline Assistance.
 - (1)The applicant cannot be a dependent as defined by the Federal Income Tax Code, under the age of sixty (60);
 - (2)The applicant is head of household;
 - (3) The applicant must have only one (1) local exchange access line to his/her residential premises or dwelling place; and
 - (4) Provide proof of income eligibility.
- В. Verification of the first two (2) requirements will be accomplished through self-certification.
- C. The Cooperative will verify the third (3rd) and fourth (4th) requirements. A service order to establish the applicant's telephone service will not be issued until proof of the applicant's income level has been obtained and verified. As proof of income eligibility, an applicant can: 1) show that he/she is currently a recipient of benefits under one (1) of several specified public assistance programs; or 2) demonstrate poverty level income.

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Issued: February 1, 1996 BY: President

Effective: Upon Approval of the Commission

BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.7 LIFELINE PROGRAM (Cont'd)

3.7.2 Eligibility Requirements (Cont'd)

C. (Cont'd)

> The process to be followed under each of these alternatives is outlined as follows:

- (1) Participation in Public Assistance Programs:
 - The specified programs are as follows: a.
 - Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)
 - Food Stamps
 - Home Energy Assistance Programs (HEAP)
 - Medical Assistance Program (MAP)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
 - b. Individuals choosing this option are required to deliver or mail to the Cooperative a photocopy of a valid identification card or of the appropriate documents that are issued to them by the agency administering the program.

APPROTES THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF COUTH CAROLINA

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Effective: Upon Approval of

the Commission

Issued: February 1, 1996 BY: President

(N)

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BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.7 LIFELINE PROGRAM (Cont'd)

3.7.2 Eligibility Requirements (Cont'd)

C. (Cont'd)

- (2)Applicants who demonstrate poverty level income either:
 - (a) As determined by the individual's Federal income tax return. Individuals choosing this option are required to obtain and deliver or mail to the Cooperative a photocopy of their most recent U.S. Individual Tax Return (Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) that was submitted to the Internal Revenue Service. The Cooperative will look at the number of exemptions reported to determine the size of the family unit and the dollar amount reported on the adjusted gross income line. These figures will then be compared to current federal poverty income level guideline tables, as published in the Federal Register, to determine if the applicant meets the income criteria.
 - (b) Fixed income, retired or other subscribers not required to file an individual tax return (Form 1040, Form 1040A or 1040EZ) should write a letter to the Cooperative with a written statement to that effect and a statement that they qualify for the Lifeline Program. The Cooperative may choose to verify this information with a State or Federal agency before determining the applicant's eligibility.

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Issued: February 1, 1996

Effective: Upon Approval of BY: President the Commission

3.7 <u>LIFELINE PROGRAM</u> (Cont'd)

3.7.3 Restrictions

A. The Lifeline Program rate will only be provided for service to the applicant's principal residence or dwelling.

3.7.4 Recertification

A. Customers must recertify on an annual basis that they continue to qualify for the discounted service.

3.7.5 Credit and Collection

A. Credit References

The credit verification procedures used for all applicants who apply for service with the Cooperative will also be used for applicants who apply for service under the Lifeline Program.

B. Deposits

Deposit requirements will be waived for all applicants who qualify for Lifeline Service, as long as the applicants continue to qualify for Lifeline Service.

APPROVED
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF COUTH CAROLINA

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Issued: February 1, 1996 BY: President Effective: Upon Approval of the Commission

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(N)

(N)

BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

3.7 <u>LIFELINE PROGRAM</u> (Cont'd)

3.7.6 Service Connection Charges

- A. Service charges do not apply to eligible customers with existing residential access line service when they convert to the Lifeline Program.
- B. Service Connection Charges will apply when:
 - (1) Existing eligible residential local exchange access service customers also convert to a different grade of eligible residential service and/or optional calling services at the time the Lifeline Program billing is initiated.
 - (2) A customer receiving Lifeline Program billing voluntarily elects to convert to telephone service arrangements which preclude Lifeline Program eligibility.
 - (3) New residential applicants (those without existing local exchange access service) eligible for the Lifeline Program will be subject to applicable service connection charges, including the Link Up America Program, as specified in Section IV of this Tariff.
- C. Any subsequent moves or changes after the initial connection to the Lifeline Program will be subject to the applicable service charges as outlined in Section IV of this Tariff.

APPROVES
THE PUZLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF COUTH CAROLINA

ENECCEPTE OFFICE

Issued: February 1, 1996
BY: President

Effective: Upon Approval of the Commission

3.1 GENERAL

A. Description and Area of Operations

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Cooperative) is a public utility providing telecommunications service in the areas certificated to the Cooperative by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina.

Headquarters for the Cooperative are located at P.O. Box 519, 122 S. Main Street, Jefferson, South Carolina 29718. Cooperative representatives may be contacted at (803) 658-3434.

The Cooperative is largely financed by the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), and provides one-party service throughout its service area according to an area coverage design approved by the RUS.

Areas of Operation

Exchange	NPA-NXX	County	
McBee Jefferson Ruby Chesterfield Pageland Patrick Bethune	335 658 634 623, 622 672, 675 498 334	Chesterfield Chesterfield Chesterfield Chesterfield Chesterfield Chesterfield Kershaw	(T) (T)

B. Exchange service areas are identified on maps filed at the end of this Section.

Map for McBee	Separate page
Map for Jefferson	Separate page
Map for Ruby	Separate page
Map for Chestefield	Separate page
Map for Pageland	Separate page
Map for Patrick	Separate page
Map for Bethune	Separate page

C. The rates for service and equipment and not specifically shown in this section are presented in other sections of this Tariff.

APPROVE FOLL FILING
THE PUBLIC STRIVINGS COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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Hay & Walely

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Issued: February 1, 1996
BY: President

Effective: Upon Approval of the Commission

3.2 MONTHLY EXCHANGE RATES

A. Monthly exchange rates are authorized by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina and are shown as follows:

3.2.1 Flat Rate Service

.1	Flat Rate Service		Tariff	
	Chesterfield Exchange*		Code	
	Residence: 1 party access charge (.00 Cheraw EAS)	\$10.80 00 10.80	R7	(R)
	Business: 1 party access charge (.00 Cheraw EAS)	\$ 21.60 .00 21.60	C1	
	Public Telephone Access Serivce (.00 Cheraw EAS)	21.60 00 21.60	CN	
	Key system lines (.00 Cheraw EAS)	21.60 00 	KT	
	PBX lines (.00 Cheraw EAS)	21.60 00 21.60	P1	(R)
	Jefferson Exchange*			
	Residence: 1 party access charge	\$ 10.80	R1	
	Business: 1 party access charge	\$ 21.60	В1	
	Public Telephone Access Service	21.60	CM	
]	Key system lines	21.60	KK	
]	PBX lines	21.60	PA	

^{*} Only one party service offered for business or residence.

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3.2 MONTHLY EXCHANGE RATES (Cont'd)

3.2.1 Flat Rate Service (Cont'd) McBee Exchange*		Tariff Code	
Residence: 1 party access charge (.00 Hrtv. EAS)	\$ 10.80 .00 10.80	R2	(R)
Business: 1 party access charge (.00 Hrtv.EAS)	\$ 21.60 00 21.60	B2	
Public Telephone Access Service (.00 Hrtv. EAS)	21.60 	CF	
Key system lines (.00 Hrtv.EAS)	21.60 	KL	
PBX lines (.00 Hrtv.EAS)	21.60 	P6	(R)

^{*} Only one party service offered for business or residence.

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3.2 MONTHLY EXCHANGE RATES (Cont'd)

		3.2.1 Flut Rate Service (Cont'd)		Tariff Code	
		Bethune Exchange*			
		Residence: 1 party access charge (.00 Camden EAS) Business: 1 party access charge (.00 Camden EAS)	$ \begin{array}{r} $10.80 \\ $	R4 B5	(R)
DR FILING E COMMISSION AROLINA		Public Telephone Access Service (.00 Camden EAS)	21.60 	CE	
윤요공	0 4 2007	Key system lines (.00 Camden EAS)	21.60 	KF	
APPROVED PUBLIC SERV OF SOUTH	APR	PBX lines (.00 Carnden EAS)	21.60 00 21.60	РН	(R)

^{*} Only one party service offered for business or residence.

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the Commission

MONTHLY EXCHANGE RATES (Cont'd) 3.2

3.2	2.1 Flat Rate Service (Cont'd)		Tariff Code	
	Pageland Exchange* Residence: 1 party access charge	\$ 10.80	R1	
	Business: 1 party access charge	\$ 21.60	B1	٠.
	Public Telephone Access Service	21.60	CM	
	Key system lines	21.60	KK	
	PBX lines	21.60	PA	
	Patrick Exchange* Residence:			
	1 party access charge (.00 Cheraw EAS; .00 Hrtv. EAS)	$\frac{$10.80}{0.00}$	R3	(R)
	Business: 1 party access charge (.00 Cheraw EAS; .00 Hrtv.EAS)	\$ 21.60 	В3	
0 4 2007	Public Telephone Access Service (.00 Cheraw EAS; .00 Hrtv EAS)	21.60 00 21.60	CQ	
APR (Key system lines (.00 Cheraw EAS; .00 Hrtv EAS)	21.60 00 21.60	KI	
	PBX lines (.00 Cheraw EAS; .00 Hrtv EAS)	21.60 00 21.60		(R)
	Ruby Exchange* Residence: 1 party access charge	\$ 10.80	R1	
	Business: 1 party access charge	\$ 21.60	B1	
	Public Telephone Access Service	21.60	CM	
	Key system lines	21.60	KK	
* Only one p	PBX lines party service offered for business or residence.	21.60	PA	

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3.2.2 LOCAL EXCEPTIONS

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50% discount on one (1) party residence access and EAS charges, as set forth in Section 3.2.1, for one (1) line only, one (1) location only.

A. Churches:

<u>Exchanges</u>	<u>Tariff Code</u>
McBee	C6
Patrick	C7
Jefferson	C8
Pageland	C8
Bethune	C5
Ruby	C8
Chesterfield	DH

B. Temporary suspension of service.

<u>Exchanges</u>	Tariff Code
McBee	V6
Patrick	V7
Jefferson	V5
Pageland	V5
Bethune	VY
Ruby	V5
Chesterfield	V8

<u>Exchanges</u>	Tariff Code
McBee	V2
Patrick	V3
Jefferson	V1
Pageland	V1
Bethune	VZ
Ruby	V1
Chesterfield	V4

C. Chesterfield reduced rate.

Exchange Exchange	Tariff Code
Chesterfield	СВ

(T)

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3.2.3 LOCAL CALLING AREAS

The rates specified in Section 3.2.1 entitle customers to access all stations bearing the central office designations of additional exchanges as shown below. The local calling area of the exchanges in the left hand column also includes the exchanges listed in the right hand column.

<u>Exchanges</u> <u>Additional Exchanges</u>

Jefferson Bethune, Chesterfield,

McBee, Pageland, Patrick,

Ruby

McBee Bethune, Chesterfield,

Hartsville, Jefferson, Pageland, Patrick, Ruby

Ruby Bethune, Chesterfield,

Jefferson, McBee, Pageland,

Patrick

Chesterfield Bethune, Cheraw, Jefferson.

McBee, Pageland, Patrick,

Ruby

Bethune Chesterfield, Jefferson,

McBee, Pageland, Patrick,

Ruby, Camden

Pageland Bethune, Chesterfield.

Jefferson, McBee, Patrick,

Ruby

Patrick Bethune, Cheraw,

Chesterfield, Hartsville, Jefferson, McBee, Pageland,

Ruby

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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ALL OF SOCIETY EXECUTIVE CIRCUTOR

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EXCHANGE MILEAGE CHARGES 3.2.4

- A. No exchange mileage shall apply within the Exchange Service area.
- В. No zone charges shall apply within the Exchange Service area.

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REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (SAC 240546)

Response to Line 3010 – Milestone Certification (47 CFR §54.313(f)(1)(i))

Sandhill Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (SAC 240546) hereby certifies that throughout 2015, it took reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to comparable offerings in urban areas and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time. If a request for broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream is unreasonable, and offering broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream is reasonable, the Company offers broadband service at actual speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream.

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

ATTACHMENT - LINE 3026 ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY